

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3556

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 1050

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GE, GW

SUBJ: GDR PROTEST AGAINST ESTABLISHMENT OF FEA

REF: (A) BERLIN 1043 (B) BONN 9787 (NOTAL)

1. AS REPORTED BY ADN AND PUBLISHED NEUES DEUTSCHLAND (ND) JUNE 21, SPOKESMAN FOR GDR FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUED ON JUNE 20 STRONGLY-WORDED STATEMENT PROTESTING BUNDESTAG PASSAGE OF BILL ESTABLISHING FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY (FEA) IN WEST BERLIN. EFFECT OF BILL, SPOKESMAN DECLARED, WOULD BE "DEMONSTRATIVE" CREATION OUTSIDE "SOVEREIGN TERRITORY" OF FRG OF FEDERAL AUTHORITY SUBORDINATE TO MINISTER FOR INTERIOR. SPOKESMAN RECALLED

THAT GDR HAD REPEATEDLY WARNED FRG AND SENAT IN RECENT MONTHS THAT SUCH A STEP WOULD BE ILLEGAL AND WOULD CONSTITUTE "CRUDEST" VIOLATION OF QA PROVISIONS, SPECIFICALLY THOSE PROSCRIBING UNILATERAL CHANGES IN
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"WESTBERLIN" AND ESTABLISHING THAT "WESTBERLIN" NOT A

CONSTITUENT PART OF FRG AND NOT TO BE GOVERNED BY IT. CLEAR CONCLUSION TO BE DRAWN FROM FRG PERSISTENCE IN TAKING "ILLEGAL" MEASURES IN SPITE OF THESE REPEATED REMINDERS, ACCORDING TO STATEMENT, WAS THAT FRG HAD NO INTENTION OF OBSERVING ITS OBLIGATIONS STEMMING FROM QA. GDR FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN WARNED "EMPHATICALLY" THAT INITIATORS OF THIS "ILLEGAL ACT" WOULD BEAR FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONSEQUENCES.

2. ACCOMPANYING ADN COMMENTARY MARKING FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF ENTRY INTO FORCE OF GENERAL RELATIONS TREATY (GRT) LIKEWISE BORE MONITORY OVERTONES WITH RESPECT TO FEA. GDR, COMMENTATOR NOTED, HAD GREETED CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S STATEMENT THAT FRG-GDR TREATY STRUCTURE SHOULD BE GIVEN LIFE AND FURTHER DEVELOPED, AND HAD RESPONDED FAVORABLY TO PROPOSALS MADE BY FRG REPRESENTATIVES TO DISCUSS PARTICULAR ISSUES WHOSE SETTLEMENT LAY IN INTEREST OF BOTH SIDES. IN SO DOING, HOWEVER, GDR HAD ACTED ON ASSUMPTION THAT FRG WOULD ABSTAIN FROM ANY ATTEMPT TO BURDEN FRG-GDR

RELATIONS THROUGH ESTABLISHMENT OF FEA IN WEST BERLIN OR THROUGH INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF GDR. ADN COMMENTARY UNDERSCORED THAT THIS ASSUMPTION, TOGETHER WITH FACT THAT FORCES WERE AT WORK IN FEDERAL REPUBLIC TO REDIRECT FRG FOREIGN POLICY BACK INTO "OLD TRACKS OF REVANCHISM," COULD NOT BE OVERLOOKED.

3. APART FROM TREATMENT OF FEA ISSUE, TONE OF ADN COMMENTARY ON GRT ANNIVERSARY WAS FAVORABLE AND OPTIMISTIC AS TO FUTURE. COMMENTARY NOTED THAT GRT HAD HAD "IMPORTANT" POSITIVE EFFECT ON DETENTE IN EUROPE; THAT NORMALIZATION OF FRG-GDR RELATIONSHIP HAD PROGRESSED DESPITE COUNTER-EFFORTS OF OPPONENTS OF DETENTE IN FRG; AND THAT SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATIONS ON NUMBER OF SPECIFIC SUBJECTS HAD BEEN SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED. ACCORDING TO COMMENTARY, PROSPECTS WERE FAVORABLE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF GOOD-NEIGHBORLY RELATIONS IF FACTUAL SITUATION -- EXISTENCE OF GDR AND FRG AS SOVEREIGN STATES INDEPENDENT OF ONE

ANOTHER AND WITH DIFFERENT SOCIAL SYSTEMS -- WAS RESPECTED. CONFIDENTIAL

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4. COMMENT: SOMEWHAT IN CONTRAST TO SOVIET VIEW REPORTED REFTEL (B), FIRST SECRETARY ROMANOVSKIY OF SOVIET EMBASSY IN EAST BERLIN RECENTLY INFORMED MISSION OFFICER THAT, WHEREAS LOCATION OF FEA BORE REAL SIGNIFICANCE FOR GDR, IT WAS FOR SOVIET UNION A MATTER OF NO INTRINSIC IMPORTANCE, A "TRIFLE" IN FACT. KLEIN

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